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CHAPTER 2 . 7 . 1 2 .

AVIAN INFLUENZA

Article 2.7.12.1.

1. For the purposes of this *Terrestrial Code*, avian influenza in its notifiable form (NAI) is defined as an infection of poultry caused by any influenza A virus of the H5 or H7 subtypes or by any AI virus with an intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) greater than 1.2 (or as an alternative at least 75% mortality) as described below. NAI viruses can be divided into highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza (HPNAI) and low pathogenicity notifiable avian influenza (LPNAI):
 - a) HPNAI viruses have an IVPI in 6-week-old chickens greater than 1.2 or, as an alternative, cause at least 75% mortality in 4-to 8-week-old chickens infected intravenously. H5 and H7 viruses which do not have an IVPI of greater than 1.2 or cause less than 75% mortality in an intravenous lethality test should be sequenced to determine whether multiple basic amino acids are present at the cleavage site of the haemagglutinin molecule (HA0); if the amino acid motif is similar to that observed for other HPNAI isolates, the isolate being tested should be considered as HPNAI.
 - b) LPNAI are all influenza A viruses of H5 and H7 subtype that are not HPNAI viruses.
2. Poultry is defined as ‘all birds reared or kept in captivity for the production of meat or eggs for consumption, for the production of other commercial products, for restocking supplies of game, or for breeding these categories of birds’.
3. For the purposes of *international trade*, this chapter deals not only with the occurrence of clinical signs caused by NAI virus, but also with the presence of infection with NAI virus in the absence of clinical signs.
4. The following defines the occurrence of infection with NAI virus:
 - a) HPNAI virus has been isolated and identified as such or viral RNA specific for HPNAI has been detected in poultry or a product derived from poultry; or
 - b) LPNAI virus has been isolated and identified as such or viral RNA specific for LPNAI has been detected in poultry or a product derived from poultry; or
 - c) antibodies to H5 or H7 subtype of NAI virus that are not a consequence of vaccination have been detected in poultry. In the case of isolated serological positive results, NAI infection may be ruled out on the basis of a thorough epidemiological investigation that does not demonstrate further evidence of NAI infection.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, ‘NAI free establishment’ means an *establishment* in which the

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poultry have shown no evidence of NAI infection, based on surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9.

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*, the *incubation period* for NAI shall be 21 days.

Standards for diagnostic tests, including pathogenicity testing, are described in the *Terrestrial Manual*. Any vaccine used should comply with the standards described in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

Article 2.7.12.2.

The NAI status of a country, a *zone* or a *compartment* can be determined on the basis of the following criteria:

1. the outcome of a *risk assessment* identifying all potential factors for NAI occurrence and their historic perspective;
2. NAI is notifiable in the whole country, an on-going NAI awareness programme is in place, and all notified suspect occurrences of NAI are subjected to field and, where applicable, laboratory investigations;
3. appropriate surveillance is in place to demonstrate the presence of infection in the absence of clinical signs in poultry, and the risk posed by birds other than poultry; this may be achieved through an NAI surveillance programme in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9.

Article 2.7.12.3.

NAI free country, zone or compartment

A country, *zone* or *compartment* may be considered free from NAI when it has been shown that neither HPNAI nor LPNAI infection has been present in the country, *zone* or *compartment* for the past 12 months, based on surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9. The surveillance may need to be adapted to parts of the country or existing *zones* or *compartments* depending on historical or geographical factors, industry structure, population data, or proximity to recent *outbreaks*.

If infection has occurred in a previously free country, *zone* or *compartment*, free status can be regained:

1. In the case of HPNAI infections, 3 months after a *stamping-out policy* (including *disinfection* of all affected *establishments*) is applied, providing that surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9. has been carried out during that three-month period.
2. In the case of LPNAI infections, poultry may be kept for slaughter for human consumption subject to ~~specified~~ conditions specified in Article 2.7.12.19 or 2.7.12.20 or a *stamping-out policy may be* applied; in either case, 3 months after the *disinfection* of all affected *establishments*, providing that surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9. has been carried out during that three-month period.

Article 2.7.12.4.

HPNAI free country, zone or compartment

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A country, *zone* or *compartment* may be considered free from HPNAI when it has been shown that HPNAI infection has not been present in the country, *zone* or *compartment* for the past 12 months, although its LPNAI status may be unknown, when, based on surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9., it does not meet the criteria for freedom from NAI but any NAI virus detected has not been identified as HPNAI virus. The surveillance may need to be adapted to parts of the country or *zones* or *compartments* depending on historical or geographical factors, industry structure, population data, or proximity to recent *outbreaks*.

If infection has occurred in a previously free country, *zone* or *compartment*, free status can be regained 3 months after a *stamping-out policy* (including *disinfection* of all affected *establishments*) is applied, providing that surveillance in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9. has been carried out during that three-month period.

Article 2.7.12.5.

When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for live poultry (other than day-old poultry)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1. the poultry showed no clinical sign of NAI on the day of shipment;
2. the poultry were kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched or for the past 21 days;
3. the required surveillance has been carried out on the *establishment* within the past 21 days;
4. if vaccinated, the poultry have been vaccinated in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9., and the relevant information is attached.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the poultry (including the dates of vaccination, and the vaccine used should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.6.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for live birds other than poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the birds:

1. showed no clinical sign of infection with a virus which would be considered NAI in poultry on the day of shipment;
2. were kept in isolation approved by the *Veterinary Services* since they were hatched or for at least the 21 days prior to shipment and showed no clinical sign of infection with a virus which would be considered NAI in poultry during the isolation period;
3. were subjected to a diagnostic test 7 to 14 days prior to shipment to demonstrate freedom from

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infection with a virus which would be considered NAI in poultry;

4. are transported in new containers.

Article 2.7.12.7.

When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for day-old live poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that ~~the poultry~~:

1. the poultry were kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched;
2. the poultry were derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* for at least 21 days prior to and at the time of the collection of the eggs;
3. if the poultry or the parent flocks were vaccinated, vaccination was carried out in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9., and the relevant information is attached.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the poultry and the parent flocks (including the dates of vaccination, and the vaccine used) should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.8.

When importing from an HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for day-old live poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that ~~the poultry~~:

1. the poultry were kept in an HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched;
2. the poultry were derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an NAI free *establishment* for at least 21 days prior to and at the time of the collection of the eggs;
3. the poultry are transported in new containers.
4. if the poultry or the parent flocks were vaccinated, vaccination was carried out in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9., and the relevant information is attached.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the poultry and the parent flocks (including the dates of vaccination, and the vaccine used) should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.9.

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When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for hatching eggs

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that ~~the eggs~~:

1. the eggs came from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*;
2. the eggs were derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* for at least 21 days prior to and at the time of the collection of the eggs.
3. if the parent flocks were vaccinated, vaccination was carried out in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9., and the relevant information is attached.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the parent flocks (including the dates of vaccination, and the vaccine used) should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.10.

When importing from a HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for hatching eggs

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that ~~the eggs~~:

1. the eggs came from an HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*;
2. the eggs were derived from parent flocks which had been kept in an NAI free *establishment* for at least 21 days prior to and at the time of the collection of the eggs;
3. the eggs have had their surfaces sanitised (in accordance with Article 3.4.1.7) and are transported in new packing material;
4. if the parent flocks were vaccinated, vaccination was carried out in accordance with Appendix 3.8.9., and the relevant information is attached.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the parent flocks (including the dates of vaccination, and the vaccine used) should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.11.

When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for eggs for human consumption

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the eggs come from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*.

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Article 2.7.12.12.

When importing from a HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for eggs for human consumption

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the eggs:

1. come from a HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*;
2. come from *establishments* in which there has been no evidence of NAI in the past 21 days;
3. have had their surfaces sanitised (in accordance with Article 3.4.1.7) and are transported in new packing material.

Article 2.7.12.13.

When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for egg products

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the egg products come from, and were processed in, an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*.

Article 2.7.12.14.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for egg products

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the egg products:

1. are derived from eggs which meet the requirements of Articles 2.7.12.9., 2.7.12.10., 2.7.12.11., or 2.7.12.12.; or
2. were processed to ensure the destruction of NAI virus (under study), and the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the *commodity* with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.7.12.15.

When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for poultry semen

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor poultry:

1. showed no clinical sign of NAI on the day of semen collection;

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2. were kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* for at least the 21 days prior to and at the time of semen collection.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the donor poultry (including the dates of vaccination, and the vaccine used) should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.16.

When importing from a HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for poultry semen

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor poultry:

- ~~1) came from an HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*;~~
- ~~2) were kept in an NAI free *establishment* for at least 21 days prior to and at the time of semen collection.~~
1. showed no clinical sign of HPNAI on the day of semen collection;
2. were kept in an HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* for at least the 21 days prior to and at the time of semen collection.

~~Information concerning the vaccination status of the donor flocks (including the dates of vaccination and the vaccine used) should be included in the veterinary certificate.~~

Article 2.7.12.17.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for semen of birds other than poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the donor birds:

1. were kept in isolation approved by the *Veterinary Services* for at least the 21 days prior to semen collection;
2. showed no clinical sign of infection with a virus which would be considered NAI in poultry during the isolation period;
3. were tested between 7 and 14 days prior to semen collection and shown to be free of NAI infection.

Article 2.7.12.18.

When importing from an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for *fresh meat* of poultry

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the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *fresh meat* comes from birds:

1. which have been kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched or for at least the past 21 days;
2. which have been slaughtered in an *approved abattoir* and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

Article 2.7.12.19.

When importing from a HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for *fresh meat* of poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that the entire consignment of *fresh meat* comes from birds:

1. which have been kept in an HPNAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched or for at least the past 21 days ~~which have been kept in an *establishment* since they were hatched or for at least the past 21 days and in which there has been no evidence of NAI in the past 21 days;~~
2. which have been slaughtered in an *approved abattoir* and have been subjected to ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections for NAI with favourable results.

Article 2.7.12.20.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for *meat products* of poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1. the *commodity* is derived from *fresh meat* which meet the requirements of Articles 2.7.12.18. or 2.7.12.19.; or
2. the *commodity* has been processed to a core temperature of 70°C for one second (or to an equivalent process), to ensure the destruction of NAI virus ~~(under study)~~;
3. the necessary precautions were taken to avoid contact of the *commodity* with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.7.12.21.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for products of poultry origin intended for use in animal feeding, or for agricultural or industrial use

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

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1. these *commodities* come from ~~birds~~ poultry which have been kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched or for at least the past 21 days; or
2. these *commodities* have been processed to ensure the destruction of NAI virus (~~under study in accordance with Appendix 3.6.X.~~);
3. the necessary precautions were taken to avoid contact of the *commodity* with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.7.12.22.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment* of origin, *Veterinary Administrations* should require:

for feathers and down (from poultry)

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1. these *commodities* come from ~~birds~~ poultry which have been kept in an NAI free country, *zone* or *compartment* since they were hatched or for at least the past 21 days; or
2. these *commodities* have been processed to ensure the destruction of NAI virus (under study);
3. the necessary precautions were taken to avoid contact of the *commodity* with any source of NAI virus.

Article 2.7.12.23.

Regardless of the NAI status of the country, *zone* or *compartment*, *Veterinary Administrations* should require for the importation of:

meat or other products from birds other than poultry

the presentation of an *international veterinary certificate* attesting that:

1. the *commodity* has been processed to ensure the destruction of NAI virus (under study);
2. the necessary precautions were taken after processing to avoid contact of the *commodity* with any source of NAI virus.

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